

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

A thought provoking similarity between the fascist youth of the early 30's and today's "new left" radicals has, in recent days, been drawn by two widely separated authorities on contemporary society and education. One authority, college educator Dr. Bruno BETTELHEIM, addressed the House Special Subcommittee on Education on 20 March 1969. The other is Dr. Tibor SZAMUELY, a former professor of modern history at Budapest University who now teaches at the University of Reading, England. SZAMUELY, who is allegedly despised by the Eastern European emigration in continental Western Europe generally and by the Hungarian emigres most particularly because of the political activities of himself and his family during and following World War II which reportedly greatly aided the deliverance of his country to the Soviets, is well known to both Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. SZAMUELY, a prolific writer and expert on Bloc Nation/Soviet Affairs, is presently a free lance contributor [REDACTED] to Radio Liberty's Russian language service.

Although both recognize significant differences such as the contemporary cry for internationalism as opposed to Nationalism which was the hallmark of fascism, and the role (though reversed) of racism, Drs. BETTELHEIM and SZAMUELY make a number of strikingly significant points.

First, with regard to race, although the German philosophy which gained a mass following was directed against a minority and today's radical intends to help a victimized minority the parallel remains that universities then and now make decisions in respect to the race of students rather than on the basis of disregard of racial origin. To use one example, German universities began to cave in when students coerced faculties to appoint professorships in Rassenwissenschaft, that is, professorships devoted to teaching the special aspects, merits, and achievements of one race versus another.

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National Socialism came to power as a party of youth. German political ideology in pre-Hitler days pitted son against father, stressing that the generations cannot understand each other and are deadly enemies. In this respect, the contemporary experiences of "generation gap" and the insistence by the young that no one over 30 is trustworthy finds a close parallel. Then and now, rebellious students are pictured as the new generation, disgusted with the complacency of their parents and fighting courageously for a better world. In 1968 student rebels burned books just as did Hitler's equally youthful followers in 1933 and ironically at the same place - Berlin.

No matter how "left" the radical students consider themselves in 1969 they, like the far "right" fascists of the early 30's are basically anti-democratic and have no use for parliamentary institutions. They are more than willing to impose minority rule on their countries. They assume they are right and should be able to force their views on the masses. They like violence and subscribe to the tactics of physical force. The radicals of today, like the radicals of 40 years ago are driving for power for its own sake which, observes Dr. SZAMUELY, separates them from communists who have a clear program for the use of power. Their adherence to a cult of youth is also a typically fascist and not a communist idea.

The role of the professor has been singled out by Dr. BETTELHEIM. In quoting from, and accepting the thoughts expressed by author George L. MOSSE in his book The Crisis of German Ideology, BETTELHEIM advised the Subcommittee that in Hitler-emergent Germany, "professors tended to be either scholars, who withdrew to their speciality taking scant notice of the world around them, or men who attempted to play the role of prophets. The professor as prophet, with very few exceptions indeed, was to be found on the side of the revolting students. The students had found a basis for action that opposed existing authority yet remained independent of any political movement directed by their elders. The faculties failed to provide any opposition, failed to use administrative powers and failed to organize effective alternative groups of students. At best the faculties displayed a detached passivity --- at worse they joined in the harassment.

Like in pre-Hitler faculties, so in our universities today, advises BETTELHEIM, we can see efforts of faculty members

to remain aloof from it all, while others try to anticipate even the most radical student demands, so as to avoid confrontations. Worse, there are no efforts made to organize effective alternative groups of students. Many faculties are so intimidated that they collapse even before the students exercise any pressure. It is the continuous worry about what the militant students may do next, the anxious efforts to give them no offense, which saps the universities of their strength so that they become paralyzed. The anxious avoidance of taking a firm stand gives not only these militants, but many noncommitted students as well, the feeling that they have the faculty on the run, because these adults are not sure about their values.

BETTELHEIM believes that colleges and universities should feel sure about themselves and take a determined stand against coercion and intimidation. They should remain opened and inviting to reasonable, non-coercive discussion about how things could be improved. This way, student rebellions could be so reduced as to no longer threaten the universities and society at large.

Dr. SZAMUELY concludes on a most negative note. He believes that if the "new left" ever achieves its goal it will be unable to hold power for long. He theorizes that the real totalitarians who understand power, the communists on the left or the army on the right will take over from the amateurs.

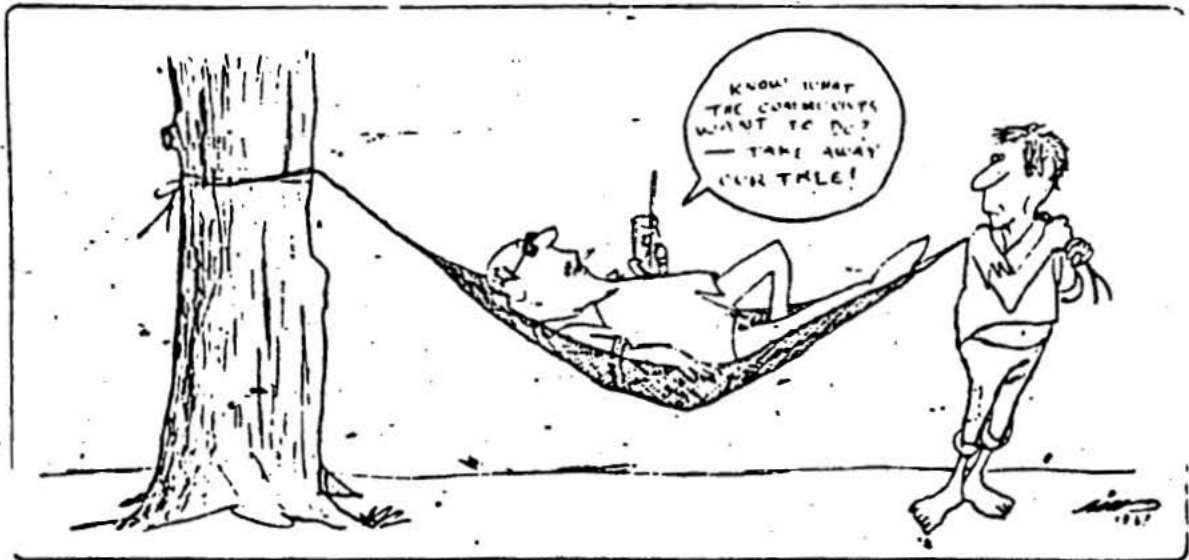
GRIN AND BEAR IT

BY LICHTY



"The committee has thought it over and we find your idea that we stop acting crazy and idiotic is not negotiable!"

THE MILITANT



Upholding Alliance for Progress.



BY KAUFMAN

Last Laugh

During mid-winter some 300 representatives of the SDS, BPP, PLP, and other radical elements met at the University of Princeton, primarily to discuss an SDS paper entitled "Smash the Military Machine in the Schools: A National Winter - Spring Offensive." The plan envisaged student demonstrations and violence in universities and high schools throughout the U.S. The midpoint of the Winter-Spring Offensive was to be a mass mobilization in Washington on 12-13 April. The SDS tract set forth the following five demands.

1. No ROTC.
2. No War or counterinsurgency research.
3. No military or war recruiting
4. No draft assemblies in high schools.
5. No high school sending of names to draft boards.

Under the subtitle "Strategy" the SDS directs that chapters adopt these five demands as the basis for local drives in universities and high schools, and for initiating "militant actions around these demands immediately after the Washington march."

From the increased tempo in the schools in anti-military and anti-ROTC activity including malicious mischief and property damage, it does appear that such an offensive is on. Whether there will be a march-demonstration as earlier reputed, in Washington this weekend - to be followed by accelerated action thereafter - is a matter of conjecture at this time. The march to support black liberation and immediate withdrawal from Vietnam was to be followed by seven days of marches on local selective service centers, recruiting stations, and boards of education. If it could be organized, there was to be a general strike of students starting May 1st. For some reason not known the Winter-Spring Offensive was removed from the agenda and not discussed at the recent SDS National Council meeting in Austin, Texas held the last weekend in March.

Unless there is some intention to clandestinely mount such a march in D.C. and to catch the authorities somewhat unprepared, it would appear that the march may have been cancelled. A march of much size with strong participation would seem to require surfacing of preparation, planning, and publicity. Also, it appears

likely that even plans for a demonstration smaller in number but perhaps more aggressive in tactics, and involving mostly SDS members from the area would be difficult to keep secret.

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CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Asterisked items are either reported for the first time or contain additions or changes to previously reported activities

- 12 April *Warwick, R.I. - The Rhode Island GI-Civilian Alliance for Peace is sponsoring a demonstration at noon in front of the Sears and Roebuck Store. (NFI)
- 12 April Norman, Oklahoma (University of Oklahoma) - SDS will sponsor a demonstration at the University of Oklahoma to protest the Vietnam War. This demonstration is in conjunction with other demonstrations being sponsored by SDS on this date.
- 13 April *Austin, Texas - An intensive campaign to build the anti-war demonstration is underway. It was decided to hold the action on 13 April instead of Easter weekend when other groups across the country demonstrated, because many University of Texas students were home for the holiday.
- An "immediate withdrawal" peace march is to be held, sponsored by the Texas Coalition Against the War.
- 13 April A protest of alleged institutional segregation at the University of Virginia may be staged at the Charlottesville campus on Thomas Jefferson's birthday. A founder and spokesman for the University's Student Coalition, Robert ROSEN stated his intentions for an April 13 protest demonstration in a speech from the capitol steps in Richmond after he and other student leaders found Virginia Governor Mills GODWIN not in sympathy with the Student Coalition's demands for university reform.
- 13-N April *New York City, N. Y. - On 4 April, at the Fillmore East (a concert hall) 2nd Ave. and East 6th St. New York, several persons were handing out leaflets signed by the

co-chairman of the radically militant Coalition for an Anti-Imperialistic Movement (CO-AIM) advertising the showing of five films titled "The Organizing of Revolution." The individual films are entitled: "Venerenous," "Chicago Challenge," "Columbia Revolt," "Community Control," and "Ham Rong Bridge." The showings to be held at 137 West 14th St. are intended to benefit the U.S. Committee to aid the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.

14-16 April

*St. Louis, Mo. - A national conference dedicated to understanding student unrest will take place at the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel. Sponsored by Executive Systems Inc., Lawrenceville, Ill., the purpose of the conference is to clarify issues confronting university officials as well as those issues soon to confront corporate officials as a result of changing attitudes. Speakers at the conference will include student and faculty leaders and corporation leaders from across the country.

17 April

*New York City, N.Y. - The Resistance has announced plans to hold a "draft card burning" at the U.S. Federal Court House, Foley Square to protest the sentencing of a convicted draft card burner. A leaflet distributed by The Resistance stated that "the government might postpone sentencing if they think too many people will burn draft cards."

19 April

*Omaha, Nebraska - The BPP and the SDS plan an anti-Vietnam demonstration. A rally is to be held at Creighton University followed by a march to an unknown destination.

23-28 April

*Los Angeles - Reportedly the BPP will hold a National meeting in Los Angeles to discuss the "repression" the party is going through. Jerry RUBIN and Abbie HOFFMAN, Yippie leaders, are scheduled to speak.

24-27 April

Peoria, Illinois - A black cultural week is scheduled to be held at Bradley University

24-27 April

Washington, D.C. - A national conference on the "Human Rights of the Man in Uniform" is apparently being planned for the Sheraton Park Hotel by the American Veterans

Committee, 1333 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.

25-26 April

*Philadelphia, Pa. - The 2nd Philadelphia Area Radicals Conference will be held in the fine arts buildings of the University of Pennsylvania.

26 April

*Washington, D. C. - In his Memphis speech at Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Services, 4 April, Rev. Ralph David ABERNATHY said that he would assemble civil rights leaders in Washington on 29 April to begin an assault on government indifference.

20 April -
4 May

*New York City - The C. P., U.S.A.'s 19th National Convention is to be held from April 30 to May 4, 1969.

A call issued for the Convention hailed "the growing radicalization of black Americans, of workers, of students, and the youth."

2-3 May

*Detroit, Mich. - Black lawyers in the Detroit area, sharply criticizing racism in the legal profession, have announced a conference on "Law and Race." Among the joint sponsors of the conference is the Detroit chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

June 1969

*On concluding their National Council Meeting in Austin, Texas, on 30 March SDS participants scheduled their next National Council meeting for June. (NFI available to date). Apparently no radical changes in SDS policy came from the Austin meetings.

June 5

*Moscow, USSR - The conference of the world Communist parties is scheduled to open June 5 instead of in May. Reputedly, the Chinese-Soviet border dispute caused the new delay. Another preparatory commission meeting has been set for May 23. All Communist parties will be invited to the June Conference including the six parties of the fourteen that rule in their own countries, who boycotted the preliminary talks: China, Albania, Yugoslavia, No. Vietnam, No. Korea, and Cuba. None is expected to attend.

While the Soviet Union contends that the purpose of the Conference is to unify the movement rather than excommunicate any members, the general belief among Communist observers

is that Moscow intends to use the Conference to widen the rift between Communist China and the bulk of the Communist movement, including the Soviet Union.

Summer 1969

According to Leon SHENANDOAH, new Chief of the Iroquois Confederation, Indian tribes from all over North America will meet this summer to discuss such problems as land disputes and the need for more social services.

August 69

*University of Texas at El Paso - 22nd Annual National Student Congress (tentative).

September 24

*Chicago, Illinois - Trial has been set for 24 September for the eight protest leaders indicted on charges of conspiracy to incite a riot in connection with the disorders at the Democratic National Convention last fall. All eight pleaded "not guilty" in Federal District Court on 9 April. Each defendant also faces charges of crossing state lines to foment disorder or to otherwise violate the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Rennie DAVIS, Bobby SEALE, John R. PROINES, and Lee WEINER had their travel restrictions eased but are required to keep the Court fully informed of their movements.

SOURCE: Government and news media.

RELIABILITY: Probably true.